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May 24, 2000

S. 2603 — Legislative Branch Appropriations, FY 2001

Calendar No. 565

Reported by the Committee on Appropriations as an original bill on May 23, 2000, on a vote of 28-0.
S. Rept. 106-304.

NOTEWORTHY

- By unanimous consent, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 2603 at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, May 24. It is the Majority Leader's intention to complete consideration of the bill today.
- The bill appropriates \$1.72 billion in new budget authority for the legislative branch, exclusive of House items, for FY 2001. This amount is \$58.1 million below the fiscal year 2000 level (exclusive of supplemental funding pending in the Agriculture appropriations bill). The House has not yet passed its legislative branch appropriations bill. The FY 2001 allocation for this funding bill (including House items) is \$2.5 billion, a 1.8-percent increase from FY 2000. [See chart attached to this *Notice*.]
- The bill includes \$506.4 million for Senate expenses, which is \$19.0 million more than last year, and represents a 3.9-percent increase, but is \$28 million below the budget estimate.
- The Senate's Agriculture Appropriations bill (S. 2536) includes \$35.1 million in emergency FY 2000 supplemental funding for congressional operations, of which \$17.5 million is for the Architect of the Capitol and \$14.6 million is for the Capitol Police.

BILL PROVISIONS

Congressional Operations, Title I

Senate Operations: Total appropriation is \$506.4 million, an amount which is \$19.0 million above FY 2000, including:

- \$92.3 million for salaries of officers and employees of the Senate. This is an increase of \$2.4 million above FY 2000 and \$0.9 million below the request.
- \$253.2 million for the salaries of Senators' staffs as well as for office expense accounts, \$20.3 million below the request and \$7.5 million more than FY 2000. *Note: The bill does not include any provisions relating to COLAs for Senators. Congress typically would address this matter in the Treasury and General Government appropriations bill [not yet reported], not in the Legislative Branch bill.*
- \$73.0 million for inquiries and investigations by all standing, special and select committees, \$1.4 million above last year.
- \$71.3 million for expenses of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, which is \$5.0 million above last year and \$30 million below the request.
- \$14.7 million for salaries (\$536,000 over last year) and \$2.1 million for expenses (\$566,000 above last year) for the Office of the Secretary of the Senate.

House Operations: Since this is a Senate-originated bill, it excludes a total for House operations. The House bill has been passed by the Appropriations Committee but not taken up by the full House.

Architect of the Capitol: The bill provides \$153.2 million (which is \$522,000 less than FY 2000 [excluding the pending supplemental funding] and \$20.4 million less than requested) for the accounts contained in Title I, including salaries, Capitol buildings and grounds, the Senate office buildings, and the Capitol power plant. Excluded are House items which are traditionally left for consideration by that body. Additional funds are recommended in Title II for the Architect's activities relative to the structural and mechanical care of the Library's buildings and grounds, and the Botanic Garden.

- The Committee directs the Architect of the Capitol to create and fill a position of Employee Advocate by January 1, 2001. The duties of the advocate include educating employees about grievance policies and providing assistance regarding questions or concerns about employment policies.
- Also, the Committee directs that no new Senate projects or activities other than those specified be undertaken with funds provided in this or previous appropriations acts without the prior written approval of the Committee, and that the Committee be notified in writing in advance of any new Senate projects or activities to be undertaken with the funds provided for annual maintenance, repairs, or miscellaneous improvements.

Congressional Research Service: The Library of Congress's research arm receives \$73.4 million for salaries and expenses, which is an increase of \$2.1 million from FY 2000, but \$2.3 million below the request. [See separate funding for the Library of Congress under Title II, below.]

Government Printing Office: The bill provides \$73.3 million for congressional printing and binding (the same as the current year, but \$7.5 million below the request).

Other Agencies, Title II

Botanic Garden: The bill appropriates \$3.6 million, which is \$240,000 above last year and \$1.3 million below the budget request.

Library of Congress: An amount of \$260.5 million total is provided for salaries and expenses (this excludes the Congressional Research Service), plus authority to spend receipts in the amount of \$6.85 million. In addition, the bill provides \$48.7 million for salaries and expenses for Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Architect of the Capitol: The bill provides \$16.3 million for the Architect of the Capitol for maintenance of the Library's buildings and grounds, an increase of \$375,000 over last year's level and \$3.9 million less than requested.

General Accounting Office (GAO): The Committee recommends \$384.9 million for salaries and expenses of the General Accounting Office, \$7.3 million more than last year and \$15.1 million below the request.

- The Committee directs GAO to conduct a study on the transfer of the Library of Congress and Government Printing Office police to the U.S. Capitol Police, and report the results of the study to the Senate Appropriations Committee and the U.S. Capitol Police Board no later than July 1, 2000.
- The Committee includes bill language requested by GAO and supported by the Governmental Affairs Committee authorizing GAO to take certain personnel actions. This legislation is necessary to enable GAO to effectively address the agency's human capital requirements.

Government Printing Office: The bill provides \$30.3 million in this title for salaries and expenses associated with the distribution of government documents. (This amount is in addition to the amount for congressional printing and binding, funds of which are contained in Title I).

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS

At press time, no amendments were known.

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Attached: chart summary

Legislative Branch Appropriation, FY 2001

(in millions of dollars)

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FY 2000</u>	<u>Committee Reported FY 2001</u>	<u>Change</u>
Senate	487.4	506.4	3.9% increase
Capitol Police	86.8	109.6	26% increase
All other Joint Items (includes Inaugural Cmte.)	13.8	15.2	10% increase
Office of Compliance	2.0	2.07	3.7% increase
Congressional Budget Office	26.1	27.1	3.8% increase
Architect of the Capitol including Botanic Garden & Library Buildings (excluding House office buildings)	173.2	173.3	0.1% increase
Library of Congress (includes CRS)	394.4	399	1.2% increase
Government Printing Office	103.2	103.6	0.4% increase
General Accounting Office	377.6	384.9	1.9% increase
TOTAL (excluding House items)	1.66 billion	1.72 billion	3.7% increase
TOTAL (including House items)	2.46 billion	2.5 billion*	

*Represents FY2001 allocation

Source: United States Senate Committee on Appropriations